



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 30, 1998

### **S. 1960**

**A bill to allow the National Park Service to acquire certain land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield, as previously authorized by law, by purchase or exchange as well as by donation**

*As reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
on September 25, 1998*

S. 1960 would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to purchase about 525 acres of land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield unit of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park in Virginia. Under existing law, the NPS could acquire this property only by donation, and the acreage could only be included within the boundary of the battlefield after such donation.

Based on information provided by the NPS, and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts within the next two years, CBO estimates that the federal government would pay about \$6.5 million to acquire the three parcels comprising the 525 acres. Acquisition costs could be greater, however, if funding is delayed or if the NPS and one or more landowners cannot agree on sales prices. Once the property has been acquired, additional funds of less than \$500,000 would be needed over the next several years to provide for pedestrian access, fencing, exhibits, and other site development activities.

S. 1960 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.